

What is claimed is:

1. A method performed by a computer for generating and changing a parametric graphic design in a computer aided design or drafting system having a parametric function, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a constrained condition of the parametric graphic design;

describing the constrained condition in a general script;

passing the general script to an application program interface associated with a parametric engine; and

operating the parametric engine according to the general script passed to the application program interface.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of editing the general script before passing the edited general script to the application program interface.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of converting the general script in the application program interface before passing the converted general script to the parametric engine, the parametric engine recognizing and executing the converted general script.

4. The method as claimed in claim 3, further comprising the step of checking the converted general script, in the parametric engine, for contradictions in the constrained conditions.

5. The method as claimed in claim 4, further comprising the step of, if the constrained conditions do not contain contradictions, adding the constrained conditions to a database of the computer aided design or drafting system.

6. The method as claimed in claim 5, further comprising the step of, if the constrained conditions contain contradictions, repeating the step of describing the constrained condition in a general script.

7. A method performed by a computer for generating and changing a parametric graphic design in a computer aided design or drafting system having a parametric function, the method comprising the steps of:

expressing a constrained condition of the parametric graphic design as a worksheet of a spreadsheet program;

passing the worksheet to an application program interface associated with a parametric engine; and

operating the parametric engine according to the worksheet passed to the application program interface.

8. The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising the step of editing the worksheet before passing the edited worksheet to the application program interface.

9. The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising the step of converting the worksheet in the application program interface before passing the converted worksheet to the parametric engine, the parametric engine recognizing and executing the converted worksheet.

10. The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising the step of checking the converted worksheet, in the parametric engine, for contradictions in the constrained conditions.

11. The method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising the step of, if the constrained conditions do not contain contradictions, adding the constrained conditions to a database of the computer aided design or drafting system.

12. The method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising the step of, if the constrained conditions contain contradictions, repeating the step of expressing a constrained condition of the parametric graphic design as a worksheet of a spreadsheet program.

13. A computer readable medium having contents for causing a computer based information handling system to perform steps for generating and changing a parametric graphic design in a computer aided design or drafting system having a parametric function, the steps comprising:

receiving a constrained condition of the parametric graphic design;

describing the constrained condition in a general script;

sending the general script to an application program interface and then

converting the general script; and

sending the converted general script from the application program interface to a parametric engine and then recognizing and executing the converted general script.

14. The medium as claimed in claim 13, the steps further comprising editing the general script before passing the edited general script to the application program interface.

15. The medium as claimed in claim 13, the steps further comprising, in the parametric engine, checking the converted general script for contradictions in the constrained conditions.

16. The medium as claimed in claim 15, the steps further comprising, if the constrained conditions do not contain contradictions, adding the constrained conditions to a database of the computer aided design or drafting system.

17. The medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein the general script comprises a worksheet of a spreadsheet program.

18. The medium as claimed in claim 14, wherein the general script comprises a worksheet of a spreadsheet program.

19. The medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein the general script comprises a worksheet of a spreadsheet program.